

I believe that enforcing a 'field repairable' status on radios will be a detriment to the amateur radio community. One of Amateur Radio's core goals is to advance the state of the art. By requiring manufacturers to have minimum component spacings and the like radios will become unmanagable, especially in the field.

With the current trend towards digital control in radios, parts are going to continue to be minituraized and combined. This, in the long run, makes parts cheaper. By requiring a radio to be 'field servicable', you would need custom components for amateur radio. Almost all of the major Amateur Radio equipment manufacturers also produce commercial gear where field service cannot be done on the radio. Most parts that go into amateur radios are the same ones that go into commercial radios. This is done to reduce cost and ensure reliability.

In closing, I believe that there shouldn't be a requirement on the manufacturers for making radios 'field repairable'. If you want to continue to be 'state of the art' in Amateur Radio, then there is no way that this could be done w/o significant cost to the purchaser of the equipment and to the manufacturer. It would be a detriment to the hobby.